



Ninety-Ninth Legislature - First Session - 2005
Introducer's Statement of Intent
LB 445

Chairperson: Jim Jensen
Committee: Health and Human Services
Date of Hearing: February 10, 2005

The following constitutes the reasons for this bill and the purposes which are sought to be accomplished thereby:

LB 445 recodifies statutes relating to the practice of physical therapy. The bill adopts the Physical Therapy Practice Act (act) (sec. 2) and defines terms (sec. 3-19).

The bill provides exclusions from provisions of the act (sec. 20), and harmonizes provisions relating to the adoption and promulgation of rules and regulations (sec. 21), education and training (sec. 22), and physical therapist (PT) licensure (sec. 23).

The bill adds new sections relating to qualifications for certification as a physical therapist assistant (PTA) (sec. 24) and supervision of PTAs (sec. 26). The bill permits a PTA to act as a clinical instructor for PTA students in approved educational programs (sec. 27).

The bill permits licensed PTs and certified PTAs to use the title PT and PTA respectively, and prohibits practice as a PT without licensure and as a PTA without certification (sec. 28).

The bill provides for direct access to physical therapy services (sec. 29). The bill provides care standards for physical therapists and permits both PTs and PTAs to utilize physical therapy aides (sec. 30).

The bill outright repeals the following sections: 71-2803.01, 71-2805, 71-2808, 71-2809, 71-2811, 71-2812, 71-2814 to 71-2817, and 71-2820 to 71-2822.

Principal Introducer:

Senator Jim Jensen